

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS:EAIR US UR

SUBJ: CIVAIR: SOVIET PROPOSE GOVERNMENT-LEVEL TALKS IN JUNE

REF: MOSOCW 4376

1. SUMMARY: USSR MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (MCA) PROPOSES US-USSR INTERGOVERNMENTAL CIVAIR DISCUSSIONS IN MOSCOW BEGINNING JUNE 10. ISSUES SOVIETS WISH TO RAISE FOCUS ON FREQUENCIES, ROUTE EXPANSION, OPENING OF AIRLINE OFFICES IN NEW CITIES OF RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES, AND INCREASE IN STAFFS. END SUMMARY

2. MCA DEPUTY FOREIGN RELATIONS CHIEF SAMORUKOV CALLED IN EMBOFF APRIL 30 TO FORMALLY PRESENT SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR HOLDING INTER-GOVERNMENTAL CIVAIR TALKS. MCA DESIRES THAT THESE DISCUSSIONS BE HELD IN MOSCOW BEGINNING JUNE 10. SAMORUKOV LISTED ITEMS SOVIET WISH TO DISCUSS AT TALKS, AS FOLLOWS:

A) PAN AM/AEROFLOT FREQUENCIES DURING 1975/76 WINTER PERIOD;

B) FREQUENCIES DURING SUMMER OF 1976;

C) EXPANSION OF ROUTES TO NEW CITIES IN RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES;

D) OPENING OF PAN AM AEMETS

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WASHINGTON RUN IN CASES OF EMERGENCY OR BAD WEATHER (SOVIET

PILOTS ALLEGE PHILADELPHIA AND BOSTON ARE BOTH "INCONVENIENT").

3. SAMROUKOV POINTED OUT THAT THIS LIST ONLY TENTATIVE  
AD SOVIETS WILLING DISCUSS ANDY ISSUES USG WISHES TO RAISE.  
HE STATED THAT NOW IS TIME FOR GOVERNMENT-LEVEL  
DISCUSSIONS, SINCE THESE HAVE NOT BEEN HELD SINCE  
JUNE 1973. FURTHER, BOTH PAN AM AND AEROFLOT -- ACCORDING  
TO SAMORUKOV--WISH TO SETTLE ISSUE OF SUMMER 1976  
SCHEDULING ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE, IF POSSIBLE, THIS WOULD  
ALLOW PROPER COORDINATION OF THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH TOURIST  
AGENCIES IN BOTH COUNTRIES. IN SHORT, CONCLUDED SAMORUKOV,  
MCA WISHES TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO CREATE MOST  
FAVORABLE CONDITIONS IN WHICH PAN AM AND AEROFLOT CAN  
CARRY OUT THEIR COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES.

4. COMMENT: DURING NEGOTIATION OF SUMMER 1975 FREQUENCIES  
INCREASE IN MARCH/APRIL SOVIETS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS (SEE  
PARTICULARLY PARA 5 OF REFTTEL) INDICATED INTEREST IN  
GOVERNMENT-LEVEL TALKS BEGINNING IN AUTUMN. EMBASSY  
FURTHER UNDERSTOOD FROM DISCUSSIONS WITH MCA REPS DURING  
THIS PROCESS THAT SOVIETS VIEWED 1975 SUMMER PERIOD AS  
PIVOTAL ONE, BASED ON RESULTS OF WHICH BOTH COUNTRIES  
WOULD BE IN BETTER POSITION TO JUDGE PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE  
DEVELOPMENT OF BILATERAL CIVIL AIR RELATIONS. THEREFORE, IT  
IS SOMEWHAT SURPRISING THAT SOVIETS ARE NOW PRESSING FOR  
TALKS BEGINNING AT MUCH EARLIER DATE AND, INDEED, BEFORE  
SUMMER SEASON IS BARELY UNDERWAY. EMBASSY SURMISES THAT  
SOVIETS WISH MOVE DATE FORWARD SO AS TO PRESSURE US INTO  
AGREEING TO NEW PROTOCOL IN TIME FOR SIGNING AT FORD-  
BREZHNEV SUMMIT, THUS MAXIMIZING OPPORTUNITY FOR SOVIET  
GAINS IN THIS FIELD. JUDGING FROM SHOPPING LIST, THEIR  
AMBITIONS ARE CONSIDERABLE.  
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## Message Attributes

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